
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PROFESSIONALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Section 304A-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended as follows:

3 1. By amending subsection (a) to read:

4 "(a) There is created the Hawaii educator loan program to
5 be administered by the University of Hawaii, in partnership with
6 a financial institution whose operations are principally
7 conducted in Hawaii, to provide financial support to students
8 and teachers who complete a state-approved teacher education
9 program and who agree to teach as a full-time teacher for a
10 period of time to be determined by the university prior to the
11 award of a loan, in:

12 (1) The Hawaii public school system in a hard-to-fill
13 position including special education, regular
14 education shortage categories, or Title 1 schools, and
15 in one of the following capacities:



- 1 (A) As an elementary school teacher teaching in the
2 field of elementary education who has met
3 standards as set forth by the Hawaii teacher
4 standards board; or
- 5 (B) As a secondary school teacher teaching in the
6 subject area that is relevant to the loan
7 recipient's academic major as certified by the
8 department of education who has met standards as
9 set forth by the Hawaii teacher standards board;
10 [~~or~~]
- 11 (2) At a school located in a rural area in the State, as
12 determined by the superintendent of education[-]; or
- 13 (3) At an early childhood education center or facility, as
14 determined by the director of human services.

15 Eligibility shall be determined by the university on a
16 competitive basis. The amount to be loaned to a student shall
17 be determined by the board of regents based on need for
18 financial aid and proof of acceptance into a state-approved
19 teacher education program at the university. The maximum amount
20 of loans that a student may receive under this program shall be
21 an aggregate amount equivalent to tuition payments and costs of



1 textbooks and other instructional materials necessary to
2 complete a state-approved teacher education program."

3 2. By amending subsections (e) and (f) to read:

4 "(e) Upon a showing of proof that the loan recipient has
5 completed a state-approved teacher education program and for
6 each year that the loan award recipient teaches in the Hawaii
7 public school system pursuant to subsection (a)(1) or (2) [7] or
8 in an early childhood education center or facility pursuant to
9 subsection (a)(3), loan forgiveness shall be provided to the
10 recipient as follows:

11 (1) [~~Ten~~] Fifteen per cent of the total amount of the loan
12 award and interest shall be waived every year for the
13 first [~~five~~] three years of repayment; and

14 (2) [~~Twenty-five~~] Twenty-seven and one-half per cent of
15 the total amount of the loan award and interest shall
16 be waived every year for the [~~sixth~~] fourth and
17 [~~seventh~~] fifth years of repayment.

18 (f) If a loan recipient who is a graduate of a state-
19 approved teacher education program subject to this section and
20 teaching pursuant to subsection (a) fails to teach in the Hawaii
21 public school system or early childhood education center or



1 facility for the minimum number of years, as determined by the
2 university prior to the loan, from the recipient's original date
3 of employment with the department of education[7] or early
4 childhood education center or facility, excluding temporary
5 leaves of absence, then the recipient shall repay any remaining
6 loan balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest."

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
10 loan forgiveness for early childhood education professionals.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
12 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Early Childhood Education; Loan
Forgiveness; Appropriation

Description:

Adds early childhood education students to the Hawaii educator loan program to allow the education loans of those individuals to be forgiven after five years teaching in early childhood education. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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